

THE



INDEX

VOL 03-04

ISSUE #10

MARCH 2004

A Publication of News and Events

If you have questions or comments, please submit them in writing to the Town Office. We learn something new every day.

Edgar Harrison, February Town Meeting

Sometimes being behind the scenes is better.

(to Nick Rocks of Rocks Engineering as they selected seats near the rear of the room to begin work on one of many "behind the scenes" Planning Workshops. For many years, Don and his wife Margaret have tirelessly worked behind the scenes to support the Town in various capacities.)

Planning Commissioner, Don English

They're not that much fun, but they're habit forming!

Edgar Harrison, Planning & Zoning Commission
(referring to P&Z Meetings and Planning Workshops)

PLANNING MEETINGS & WORKSHOPS ~



Feb 4, 2004: Robert & Casey Rauch (left) present additional concept plans to Town representatives: Brynja Booth (Town Attorney), Frank Hall (Town Planner), Town Commissioners: Cheryl Lewis, Edgar Harrison, Bob Niemeyer and Norm Fegel.

THE BUILDING BLOCKS OF



FUTURE DECISIONMAKING



Planning Commissioners and citizens review proposed concept plans.

(Star Democrat Reporter, Chris Williams in background)

For the past year or so, the Planning Commission has been working overtime to update the Town's Planning and Zoning ordinances including the addition of a PN District (Planned Neighborhood). On February 4, 2004, Town Planner Frank Hall recommended that the Town Council delay granting conditional approval of the Preliminary Application/Concept Plan for the east side Planned Neighborhood Development until March 2004 at the earliest. Hall stated that his recommendation was made in the best interest of the Town and the applicant. He went on to say that the application was very well prepared and in compliance with the Floating Zone ordinance. However, because the Council is also obligated to find that the application for development is consistent not only with the specifics, but also with the intent of the Comprehensive Plan, Hall recommended taking more time to review further requested information before granting conditional approval of the concept plan. He added that, "The Town Council, applicant, and general public should in no way view my recommendation as a suggestion for denial of the concept plan or an indication of a change in rapport between the applicant and town officials. In fact, I am personally pleased with the application. My recommendation is based, in part, on the fact that this scale of project is 'new territory' for the Town and an additional month will provide the opportunity for dialogue between the applicant and the Town to clarify the details needed for the Council to formalize their conditional approval of the Plan."



POST OFFICE NEWS From January 21 to July 2, 2004, you can buy a first class book of stamps or a PhoneCard to be donated and distributed to military personnel overseas. Show our service Men and Women that we have not forgotten them or the sacrifice they are making!

It is important that the handicapped parking in front of the Post Office be kept available for those with handicapped permits. Please do not use this parking space if you do not have the proper handicapped permit. Thank you!



Congratulations to Postmaster, Daphne Garner on the birth of her 3rd grandchild. Derrell Josiah Jacobs was born February 21, 2004 at 12:56 a.m. and weighed in at a strapping 8 lbs. 3 oz.



Town of Trappe, Inc. • 4011 Powell Ave • PO Box 162 • Trappe, MD 21673-0162 • 410-476-3170 • fax 410-476-3192

Meet your Town Commissioners...

Cheryl Lewis

By: Ann Dorbin



Cheryl at work with the family's most recent addition, Alecia a 'May Day' cat adopted by her daughter, Maria.

Things go smoother if everyone is put at ease and realizes that the Town leaders are not 'The Mighty Oz,' but just regular people doing what is in our hearts . . .

Cheryl Lewis, Town Council President

Referring to her fortuitous path to local government Cheryl Lewis good-naturedly refers to herself as the "Accidental Politician." Actually, she considers herself more of a public servant than a politician.

As the oldest of four children in a military family, Cheryl was born in Heidelberg Germany and grew up living between Germany, New Jersey, South Philadelphia, North Carolina and Virginia. She spent her summers at the homes of her grandparents, a farm in rural Michigan and a waterfront home in St. Michaels. "Those are my happiest memories," she says, "I was always very attached to small communities."

Cheryl graduated from Bayside High School in Virginia Beach and studied business and accounting at Tidewater Community College and Old Dominion University. She began working in the business world as a teenager and has 25 years of business experience in the theater, video store, and dry cleaning industries, along with her

recent work in the title business here in Talbot County. Cheryl met her husband, Tony, in Virginia Beach where he was stationed as a Marine. They now own Trappe Network Solutions, a consulting firm based in their home on Main Street.

When Cheryl, Tony, and their two children decided to move to the Eastern Shore in 1998, they chose their present home because of its charm. "Of all the houses we looked at, this one stood out because it reminded me of my grandparent's homes," Cheryl says. "When I go down the basement stairs I can hear the click of my grandmother's shoes, even though she is no longer living. The familiarity was so distinct it made me feel comfortable."

A couple of months after moving to Trappe, Cheryl saw an notice in the newspaper about a Halloween parade through town. Looking forward to their first small town parade, her two young kids dressed up and hurried to the center of town. A crowd of excited people gathered, but there was no sign of a parade. Come to find out, there was a miscommunication and there was no parade. "We had all these kids dressed up with no place to go!" she recounts. "One of my new neighbors urged me to get involved so that kind of thing wouldn't happen again." Cheryl showed up at the next Town Meeting. "Coming from a large area where most people don't attend Town Meetings, it was all new to me," she says. "I walked in the front door because I didn't even know where the meeting room was—no different than anybody else who stumbles in there. Since I was an unknown woman, the (all male) Commissioners thought I must be with the Town Attorney's office! I've always worked in male-dominated fields, so I'm not intimidated by that. At the end of the meeting Edgar (Harrison) introduced me as a new resident and then half-jokingly said 'There will be an opening in one year.' When it came time to run, I went in to Joedy Cecil (Town Clerk) and got the paperwork. She asked me several times, 'Are you sure you know what you're getting into?' Bobby Quidas's seat was opening up and he, too, wanted to make sure I realized the extent of the commitment I was making. I assured them that I did—everything I've ever done I've done so seriously that it was overwhelming!"

Cheryl likens governing a small town to running a small business, something with which she is very familiar. "As with a small business owner, everything that needs to be done to keep the Town functioning is ultimately up to five commissioners. To me, a town is still a business, and a lot depends on how you manage it. It's great to say we won't spend any more money, but not if the town is running into the ground. Because we have some of the lowest taxes in the country, it's often not enough to do much with. Sitting on your taxes isn't usually a good idea because the cost of living increases regardless of the tax base and the Town still has to cover its expenses. Taxes are an inevitable way to sustain a town and tax revenue from 450 homes is not enough. We have so few people; we need to get a little bigger. A larger tax base will give us more to work with without adding a tremendous amount of infrastructure to maintain.

"We have two choices: manage the town well and thrive, or don't do anything and wish it was the way it once was. But that's wishful thinking, not reality. Nobody wants to end up as a ghost town. The reality is we just can't live like we did 100 years ago. Even fifty years ago a small town didn't have to pave roads, plow snow, build sewage plants, or pay workman's compensation. Society has forced us to deal with a lot of issues while still remaining a small town."

Cheryl goes on to say that most local leaders are not in their jobs for the money. (Town Commissioners are paid \$400 per year in compensation for what often amounts to a full time job.) She would eventually like to see Trappe have the resources to hire a Town Manager to perform many of the duties now done by the commissioners and staff. "It is increasingly difficult to find people who are willing to donate 40 hours a week," she adds. Besides putting in endless hours and attending numerous meetings each month, Cheryl also serves as the head of the Town's Administrative Committee, overseeing the office personnel, finance, taxes, and water bills. "I do this as a public service," she confirms. "I think they saw me coming!"

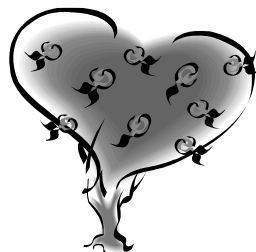
OVER HALF WAY THERE!

Thanks to Joedy Cecil, and Chris Routzahn for adding to the list this month.

(Here are the latest, please send in your own until we reach 100)

100 Things to Love About Trappe

- 50 The corners at Main Street intersections
- 51 Dogs waiting in vehicles at the Post Office & riding in the back of pickup trucks
- 52 Joedy Cecil
- 53 Riding my bike down Howell Point Road and seeing deer in the fields
- 54 Collecting asparagus alongside the roads in spring
- 55 Having our own florist in town who is so kind and giving
- 56 Seeing Pastor Bob ride his bike through town
- 57 Memories of the Super 30 Drive In
- 58 St. Paul's Church quilt raffle
- 59 Town Suppers
- 60 Auctions at the Nelson Auction Gallery



FYI:
Trappe
Volunteer
Fire Departments
Annual Yard Sale is
June 5th!
Start cleaning out
your attic & garage.
Watch for more info
in the future
news
letters.



TRAPPE VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT INDUCTS FIREFIGHTERS & OFFICERS



⇐**Front Row:** Ben Diefenderfer (Chief), J.R. Dobson (Asst. Chief), Nick Newman (Captain), Carig McCracken (1st Lieutenant), Justin Firth (2nd Lieutenant)

⇐**Back Row:** Fred McCracken (Chief Engineer), Mike Marshall (Asst. Chief Engineer), Sonny Diefenderfer (Asst. Chief Engineer), Cris LaPage (Ambulance Lieutenant), Holly Anderson (Ambulance Captain)

Front Row⇒

George McCracken (President), Lou Diefenderfer (Vice President), Angie Asmussen (Secretary), Don English (Treasurer), Dee McDermott (Asst. Secretary/Treasurer)

Back Row⇒

Bob Quidas (Trustee), Shirley Quidas (Trustee), T. R. Rampmeyer (Parliamentarian), Dallas Johns (Trustee), Mike Marshall (Trustee), Sonny Diefenderfer (Trustee), Rev. Robert Hawkins (Chaplin)



What's wrong with this picture?



One January afternoon, this fire truck caught my attention. It stuck out like a sore thumb. Why a Madison vehicle parked at the Trappe Firehouse? I wondered. Too early in the year for a parade. Too solitary for a regional meeting. Too quiet for a training session. Curious, I did some investigating and learned something I hadn't known before. When our trucks are called away from the station for an emergency or community event, another company will stand backup for any calls that come in while they are gone. It is standard procedure for all local fire departments to backup each other. This picture was taken on January 14, 2004, the day of the Cherry's fire in Easton. This truck traveled from Dorchester County to cover our station while our men and equipment were in Easton. What's wrong with this picture? Absolutely nothing! More of a helping hand than a sore thumb.

STANDING BACKUP

The Index is now available online, along with lots of other local info. Visit the town Web site: www.trappemd.net Logon today!!

The Index is a publication of the Trappe Town Council. We welcome contributions and short articles that are of general interest to the community. Events reported in *The Index* do not necessarily reflect the endorsement of the Town Commissioners. The Commissioners reserve the right to edit or reject any item submitted.

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March 2004

March 20th



1st Day of Spring

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 Md. State Assessment Testing EMS March 1st & 2nd 8am—11 pm	2 <i>Primary Election</i> TVFD 7am - 8pm SUMC @ 7:30pm <i>Men's Bible Study</i> EHS Band Booster Mtg 7 pm EHS	3 Town Council Mtg 7 pm Public Hearing 7:30pm Town Hall Scott's UMC 11 am Young @ Heart 2 pm Bible Study 6 pm Lenten Study 7 pm Lenten Service 6 m Lenten Study St Paul's WMES PTO Mtg 7 pm	4 Girl Scouts Brownie Troop #906 6:30 pm at WMES	5 Seven Sisters Quilting Guild 7 pm - 9:30 pm @ TVFD	6 EMS Saturday School March 6th, & 20th April 3rd 9 am - 12 pm
7 	8 EMS Spring Picture Day EMS Interim Reports Mailed Home EHS Support Our Sports 6pm Media Ctr	9 Cadet Girl Scout Troup 289 4PM at WMES Fire Department Monthly Mtg 7:30pm TVFD TCPS Showcase EHS 5 pm - 7 pm	10 Planning Commission Wrkshp 7:30 PM Town Hall Scott's UMC 11 am Young @ Heart 2 pm Bible Study 7 pm Lenten Service	11 Parent Involvement Team EMS - 2:30pm Cheerleader Bingo EMS - 6 pm	12 All-U-Can Eat Spaghetti Dinner EHS Band Boosters EHS 5:30 - 7:30pm Green & White Dance EMS 6:30pm "Joseph & the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat" EHS 8 pm	13 "Joseph & the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat" EHS 8 pm 7:30 - 10:00 am Country Church Breakfast Trappe UMC
14 	15 EMS Spring Book Fair March 15th - 19th 8:15am - 3:00 pm	16 SUMC Lenten Service 7 pm - 8 pm March 17th District Band Festival EHS @ WI HI	17 ST. PAT'S DAY Planning Commission Mtg 7:30 PM Town Hall SUMC 11 am Young @ Heart 2 pm Bible Study SUMC Youth Revival Mar 17-19 7 - 8pm 7 pm TCPS Board Mtg EHS	18 WMES Pre-K & Kindergarten Registration 2 pm - 7 pm Girl Scouts Brownie Troop #906 6:30 pm at WMES TCPS Early Dismissal	19 Town Dinner Ham or Turkey Scott's UMC 4 PM Seven Sisters Quilting Guild 7PM @ TVFD "Joseph & the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat" EHS 8 pm	20 Scott's UMC Methodist Men's All-U-Can Eat Breakfast \$5 7 am - 11 am "Joseph & the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat" EHS 8 pm
21 Scott's UMC Junior Usher's Day Service 3:30 pm - 5:30 pm	22	23 Cadet Girl Scout Troup 289 4PM at WMES	24 SUMC 11 am Young @ Heart 2 pm Bible Study 7 pm Lenten Service	25 District Band Festival (EMS Bands) Stephen Decatur HS	26 TCPS Early Dismissal	27 7:30 - 10:00 am Country Church Breakfast Trappe UMC 4-H Speaking Event EMS 8am - 3pm WMES PTO Spring Social & Silent Auction 7 - 11pm
28 Scott's UMC Annual Men's Day Service 3:30 pm - 5:30 pm	29	30	31 SUMC 11 am Young @ Heart 2 pm Bible Study 7 pm Lenten Service	Please submit Calendar Events and News Items to the Town Office or call Ann Dorbin at 410-476-3910 or email tinman@friend.ly.net NEXT SUBMISSION DEADLINE is March 23, 2004		

Mid-Shore League of Republican Women will meet On March 10th at the home of Ann & Rush Moody, 28534 Granville Lane. All are welcome. Please call Lura Dameron 410-4770-4818 for more information.

Promote Your Business & Help Keep Little League Alive in Trappe Support Little League 2004

Trappe Little League is looking for advertisers for their program brochure. They hope to have enough ads this year to be able to give away the brochures at all games throughout the season.

Let people know about the many local businesses right here in the Trappe area. The deadline for ad submission is **April 15, 2004**. Please call Ray Geist at 410-476-3178 for more information.

Girl Scout Troop #906 would like to thank everyone for their support during the cookie drive!!!! Watch for more information about Spring Registration for girls interested in Girl Scouting 2004-2005



March Town Dinner

sponsored by

Scott's United Methodist



March 19th / 4:00 - 6:30pm

Scott's United Methodist Church

Adults \$7 / Child \$3.50 / Under 5 Free

All are welcome to join Youth Revival from 7pm - 8pm



Ham, Cabbage, Boiled Potatoes, Sweet Potatoes, Apple Sauce, Roll, Beverage & Dessert

Or

Turkey-Dressing, Mac & Cheese, Green Beans, Cole Slaw, Sweet Potato, Roll, Beverage & Dessert

We love to eat...



Town Commissioner, Danny Adams tries out St. Paul's new stoves at the Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper.



Don English, Nora Niemeyer & Bob Niemeyer enjoy a chili at the February Town supper while celebrating Margaret English's birthday surprise.



Scott's United Methodist Women hosted their last Soup Night of the season on February 27th. Four drivers delivered more than 60 soup dinners. (photo courtesy of Scotts UMC).

NOVEMBER TO FEBRUARY SCOTTS UNITED METHODIST WOMEN SPREAD FELLOWSHIP & SOUP THROUGH THE COMMUNITY

Submitted by Eunice Jenkins, Church Secretary
Scotts United Methodist Women sponsored a Free Soup Night every Friday evening from November 2003 to February 2004. Prior to this, the sharing of soup had been three or four times a year. The suggestion to extend the program was made by (Chairperson) Violece Brown, who served as coordinator. Over the weeks, the event grew to an average of 60 meals delivered to shut-ins, the elderly, and others in the community each week, with a high of 98 recipients on February 13, when a pre-Valentine's dinner and soup was served. This was a United Methodist Women's project, but the entire church supported the endeavor very strongly. Violece says, "It was a beautiful program." Scotts will resume Soup Night next November.

Pictured above are: (L-R) Tamsey Miller, Mary Chase, Vivian Roberts, Linda Cook, Violece Brown (Chairperson), Diane Thomas (Pres., UMW), Florence Wilson & Laura Wilson. Other volunteers missing from Photo: Alma Hackett (Dishwasher & wife of Pastor Hackett), Elois Brown, Leola Brown, Maidie Ross, Tonya Pritchett, Mildred Thomas, and Drivers: Rev. Robert Brown, Donald Brown, James Brown, David Purnell & Daniel Camper.

P.S. > On Valentine's Day, for the first time, Pastor T. D. Hackett and the very fine men of Scotts honored the ladies with a full course steak dinner. The Pastor tried to steal all the credit, but that's O. K., this was his first year. What an eloquent evening. The ladies were all dressed in their fine attire and the men graciously waited on them. There were over 100 attendees.

P.P.S. > If you want the recipe for "SWEETSWEET HEAVEN" stop by Scotts any Sunday morning at 9 AM. Rev. T. D. Hackett gives out all of the ingredients needed every Sunday.

Joedy Cecil's Waterfowl Chili Recipe

(the recipe that helped raise more than \$8000 one year at the Middle School Concession Stand)

- 2 1/2 lbs. Ground Beef
- 6 lbs. Kidney Beans
- 2 pkgs French's Chili Seasoning
- 1 29-oz. Can Tomato Sauce
- 3 Tbls. Minced Onion or Fresh Chopped Onion



White Marsh Elementary Students Jump Rope For Heart



Fifth Grader,
David Aihe in action

Heart disease and stroke are among the top three causes of death and serious disability in our country. Healthy lifestyles can help prevent heart disease and stroke. Good nutrition, physical activity, staying tobacco free, and maintaining healthy blood pressure and weight are all part of a healthy lifestyle. Jump Rope For Heart helps get this message across to students. Each year thousands of elementary schools across the nation participate in this educational fundraising event.

Jump Rope For Heart promotes the value of physical activity and community involvement to elementary schoolchildren. These are the years when positive learning experiences can help establish a positive attitude and appreciation for participating in regular, daily physical activity for life. One of Jump Rope For Heart's goals -- to raise money for research on heart disease and stroke -- helps students understand the importance of such research and develop an interest in health and science.

On February 13, 2004, White Marsh Elementary students, under the leadership of P.E. instructor Jim Welsch, gathered in the gym for a hopping good time while helping to raise money for the American Heart Association.

by Ann Dorbin

PRE-K & KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION AT WHITE MARSH ELEMENTARY THURSDAY, MARCH 18, 2004 ~ 2:00pm - 7:00pm

Children registering for Pre-K must be 4 years old by September 30, 2004
For Kindergarten, children must be 5 years old by October 31, 2004



Parent/Guardian should bring the following information to register:

- Child's birth certificate
- Child's social security card
- Child's immunization record
- Proof of residency (current electric bill, gas bill, lease or mortgage)

Please call the school office at 410.476.3144 for additional information.

Congratulations to Trappe residents, saxophonist Lindsey Hill (senior) and clarinetist April Byrnes (sophomore) for being selected for the All-Shore Band.



An Amish Perspective

Last month, Richard and I traveled to Western Maryland on a cross country skiing trip. Although we enjoy traveling to other states and countries, we also appreciate the diverse makeup and natural beauty of our home state. Maryland is a great place to live! As the state continues to feel the demands of population growth, it sometimes seems that our attractiveness can be mixed blessing. Even the remote areas of the Eastern Shore and Western Maryland are feeling these pressures. On our trip, we ate a Valentine's Day dinner at a wonderful place called The Casselman Historic Hotel and Restaurant (highly recommended) in Grantsville along Alt. Route 40, the old National Road. The Casselman is run by an Amish family whose respect and care for their business and their customers is a joy to experience. Generally, the Amish shun modern technology and embrace a simple lifestyle. Yet, many take a perspective of reality and common sense about our complex world. Because of our Town's current experience in striving to unify the best of our past and future, I wanted to share some words about the Miller's approach as printed in their brochure:



The Miller Family of the Casselman believe

that the expanding population of the country and the developing economy are here to stay. But we also believe that the finer things of life just dare not be lost in the rush of our modern day. We believe that things are neither good nor bad just because they are old or new.



DELETED



Over the coming months, when traveling the back roads of Trappe District, remember that you will need to detour around the Bruceville Bridge over Miles Creek while the bridge is being rebuilt.



SPOTLIGHT ON LOCAL BUSINESS

Lee Everett,
LONGABERGER
Independent Sales Consultant
P.O. Box 525, Trappe, Md
410-416-5136
chadlee@fastol.com

*Make a special Easter Basket
or Mother's Day gift basket.*

Lee Everett has been a Longaberger Basket Sales Consultant for about six years. Lee and her family lived on Seymour Drive for ten years before recently moving to a new home on Marvel Ct. She says loves living in Trappe. You may shop for baskets in several different ways: at a home show, book party, by catalog or online at www.longaberger.com. Call Lee to have a catalog mailed or drop off to you. Easter orders should be placed by March 4th, Mother's Day by March 31st, and Father's Day by the end of April.



A SPECIAL WELCOME TO THE FOLLOWING RESIDENTS

Gail A. Williams et al, Harrison Circle Vicky and Erica Horney, Harrison Circle
Donald D. Andrews, Murray's Lane Earl and Sharon Hall, Seymour Drive

Notes from the Editor:



♥ Please excuse an error on last month's calendar. The Country Church Breakfasts at Trappe United Methodist Church are held on the 2nd and 4th Saturdays of the month. Sorry for the mixup. Readers, if you ever have questions, please feel free to call me or the friendly folks at the town office. AED

♥ Many thanks to all who have made suggestions for articles in *The Index*. Space and financial considerations force us to limit the size of each issue. (We could easily publish once a week!) Please be patient. Your suggestions are on my list for future issues. AED

♥ A big thank you to Cheryl Lewis, Joedy Cecil, Jeannie George, Frank Hall and Don English for proofreading, editing, copying, folding, and mailing *The Index* each month. Thanks also to Trappe youth Maria Brophy and Jennifer Davis for their help in preparing mailings. AED

Play Ball . . . Well, maybe later . . .



Hold that Thought . . .

By Ann Dorbin

When I spotted this basketball frozen in a large puddle at the beginning of February, it seemed funny, sad, and hopeful all at the same time. It was a comical sight. Balmy weather was long gone, and some poor kid's playful recreation was frozen in time. Yet that frozen basketball held the promise of the hoops of warmer days.

Not long afterwards, on a milder winter day, I smiled again when I noticed the basketball was gone. The puddle had melted and released its captive to better, bouncier times. Later that day, I spotted my young son's white softball under a huge hydrangea bush. I recalled the day last fall when Noah was taking batting practice and slugged the ball over my head and into the flower garden. We searched and searched through the lush foliage, but could not find the lost ball. "It's got to be here somewhere," we repeated, but our search was in vain. Now that the flowers have died back and the branches of the bushes are bare, the white ball stood out clearly against a drab brown backdrop of bare branches

and soil. I shook my head and thought, *I know we looked there, why didn't we see it? It's plain as day now . . .*

The plants are resting and winter's pruning has lightened the load of growth and beauty. It's hard work to be a flower plant! A softball visible under the branches of a bush that in other seasons droops with heavy blue blossom balls, made me think about how rest and cutting back can refresh us, too, helping us see what we may miss during busier, more productive times. Warmer days are on the way and most of us have a lot of balls in the air. But for now, perhaps we can follow nature's lead and take a few moments to rest, reflect, and rejuvenate. It won't be long until we hear that first cry of "Play ball!"